Attorney Docket No.: 47487-0001-00-US (226811)

Application No.: 10/582,336

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Previously Presented): A malt fermented beverage comprising: an alcohol-containing material partly made of wheat or barley and produced by fermentation, serving as a component A; and

an alcohol-containing distillate obtained by distilling an alcohol-containing material at least partly made of wheat or barley, serving as a component B,

wherein the malt fermented beverage is produced by mixing the component A and the component B, and wherein a ratio between an alcohol content from the alcohol-containing material of the component A and an alcohol content from the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is in a range of about 97.5:2.5 to about 90:10.

Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein at least malt is used as a starting material for the alcohol-containing material of the component A.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is made of <u>at least starting</u> <u>materials comprising</u> malt, hop and water, <u>and other starting materials as is necessary</u>.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 4, wherein the [[other]] starting materials <u>further comprise materials</u> [[are]] selected from the group

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consisting of rice, corn, sorghum, white potato, starch, sugars, wheat or barley other than malt, a bittering agent, and a coloring agent.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is beer or a low-malt beer beverage.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 20% or higher.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing material having malt proportion of 40% or higher.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is shochu (Japanese distilled liquor), whisky, vodka, or spirits.

Claim 10. (Canceled).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is "mugi shochu" (shochu distilled from wheat or barley).

Claims 12-13. (Canceled).

Claim 14. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim [[13]] 11, wherein the mugi shochu is mugi shochu that is obtained from starting materials including wheat or barley, malted wheat or malted barley, and water.

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Claim 15. (Canceled).

Claim 16. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 [[or

2]], wherein the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is wheat spirits.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1

[[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing

material having malt proportion of 100%, and the distillate of alcohol-containing material of the

component B is otsu-rui mugi shochu.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1

[[or 2]], wherein the alcohol-containing material of the component A is an alcohol-containing

material having malt proportion of 40 to 60%, and the distillate of alcohol-containing material of

the component B is wheat spirits.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1

[[or 2]], wherein an alcohol content of the alcohol-containing distillate of the component B is

from 25 to 45%.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended): The malt fermented beverage according to claim 1 or

elaim 2, wherein an alcohol content of the malt fermented beverage is from 1 to 15%.

Claims 21-23. (Canceled).

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